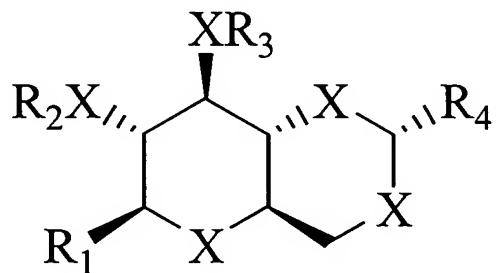


We claim:

1. A method of treating infections caused by *Flaviviridae* sp., comprising the step of administering an effective amount of a bicyclic carbohydrate having the formula:

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wherein:

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of -alkyl, -aryl and -benzyl;

R₂ and R₃ are selected from the group consisting of -alkyl and -aryl;

10 R₄ is an -aryl;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, N and S;

or a pharmaceutically active derivative thereof.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of

15 phenyl and benzyl, R₂ and R₃ are selected from the group consisting of propyl, *i*-propyl and butyl, R₄ is phenyl and X is O, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the infection is hepatitis C.

20 4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the infection is bovine viral diarrhea.

5. A method of treating infections caused by (+) sense RNA viruses, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

25 6. A method as defined in claim 4, wherein the infection is hepatitis C.

7. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein the infection is bovine viral diarrhea.